1872

The Preachers, Officers And Delegates composing the Second Biennial Conference of the CAPE FEAR FREEWILL BAPTIST CONNEXION, met with the Church, at Pleasant Grove, Harnett County, N. C., on Thursday, October 10th, 1872.

PROCEEDINGS.

Thursday, 11 O'Clock, A. M.

Devotional exercises were introduced by Elder Parrot Creech, who delivered an Introductory Sermon from 1 Tim. 3: 16, "*And without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness.*"

After sermon, Eld. Jas. Turnage, the former Moderator, presided until the name of Eld. Creech was proposed, and he elected Moderator for the next biennial term.

Conference was organized by appointing J. Wilson Lucas, Secretary, Erasmus Lee, Assistant Moderator, and W. A. Jackson, Asst. Secretary, and enrolling the names of those present who composed the Conference, which was as follows:

Elders J. [illegible] Turnage, Parrot Creech, Allen Fowler and Isaac Wheeler; Licentiates, J. Wilson Lucas, Delegates, 1st district, J. C. Sorrel, W. H. Canaday, B. Tew, Erasmus Lee; 2nd district, A. W. Avera, A. G. Hill, Jas. Rayner, K. M. C. Beasley, Allen Gregory.

The Moderator being authorized by Conference made the following

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Committee on Preaching during present session, K. M. C Beasly, J. C. Sorrell and A. G. Hill.

Committee of Finance, A. W. Avera, B. Tew and Jas Rayner.

General Treasurer of the Connexion, A. G. Hill.

Secretary receives and reads out the report of Committee on preaching, as follows: "Elders Fowler and Wheeler are requested to preach to attending congregation on to-morrow."

On motion, Conference adjourned until to-morrow, 10 o'clock, A. M. Devotional services conducted by Eld. A. Fowler.

Friday, October 11th.

10½ A. M., Conference called to order by the Moderator. Devotional services conducted by Eld. R. A. Johnson. Roll

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was called by the Secretary, and the following names enrolled: Eld. R. A. Johnson; 1st district, W. A. Jackson, W. E. Bass, Joseph Warren, Willie Fowler; 2nd district, W. A. Ford, W. H. Barber and G. A. Whittenton.

Proceedings of Thursday were read and approved.

On motion, Elders Creech, Turnage, and Fowler were again appointed Ordaining Council for Cape Fear Connexion.

On motion, the Secretary, having received returns from the Yearly Meetings, was requested to read the same. These were approved and recorded. (See Addenda.)

On motion, the Conference authorized the transcriber to receive and record in the returns the statistics of Long Branch Church as given at the sitting of this Conference.

On motion the delegates from 2nd district were allowed to retire ten minutes to consult relative to contribution from their district.

On motion the following resolution offered by J. Wilson Lucas was received for discussion.

Resolved, That this Conference discard the complaints of all aggrieved minorities of churches belonging to the Connexion, and advise such minorities to refer their grievances to the next higher tribunal of this Connexion.

On motion, the resolution was adopted.

On motion, the Conference authorized the Moderator to appoint "a committee who shall ascertain the character and usefulness of Elders and Licentiates belonging to the Connexion and report to General Conference."

Moderator appointed as said Committee, A. G. Hill, Alex. Gregory, Edwin Johnson, A. W. Avera, W. H. Ford, Jas. Rayner, S. B. Thane, W. H. Barber, J. C. Sorrell, Willie Fowler, E. Lee and W. A. Jackson.

On motion the preachers belonging to the Connexion were requested to report their labors only to the Conference.

On motion the reports of ministerial labor for 1871 and 1872 were received and read as follows:

Elder James Turnage, sermons,	300.
Elder P. Creech, "	104
Elder B. B. Holder sermons, 82, prayer meetings, 18, Sabbath school lectures, 22, temperance lectures	5
Elder A. Fowler, sermons,	114
Elder R. A. Johnson "	167
Elder I. Wheeler "	60

Elder J. Wilson, exhortations, 107, S. S. lectures, 44

On motion the following resolutions, offered by Elder Johnson, were received for discussion:

Resolved 1st. That we meet in Conference once every year.

2nd. That said conference be composed of preachers, and officers of this Conference and lay delegates from the several churches belonging to Cape Fear Connexion.

3d. That these resolutions be valid from the time that they pass, and all prior resolutions of the Conference conflicting herewith be repealed.

On motion, these resolutions were laid on the table, and the following offered by Elder Johnson, was received for discussion: *Resolved*, That Art. 1st, in our discipline, on "Constitution of Annual Conference" be so amended as to read Annual Conference, instead "Annual Meeting," and "Biennial Conference." On this resolution, the ayes and nays were taken and recorded: ayes, 19; nays, 2, and it was decided in the negative.

On motion, the former resolutions, which had been tabled, were taken up, and, motion to adopt was lost.

Secretary received and read out the reports of committee on preaching as follows: "Elders Turnage and Johnson are requested to preach to the attending congregation to-morrow."

On motion Conference adjourned until Saturday, 10 A. M.. Devotional services conducted by J. W. Lucas.

Saturday, 10½ *A. M.*

Conference called to order by the Moderator; devotional exercises conducted by Elder Turnage. Roll was called.

By order of Moderator, proceedings of Friday were read.

Motion to receive and approve was lost, in consequence of their inconsistencies.

On motion, the resolutions offered Friday and all the proceedings relative to said resolutions, were rejected, and the other proceedings of Friday approved.

On motion, the following resolution again offered by J. W. Lucas, was received for discussion:

Resolved, That this Conference discard all complaints of aggrieved minorities of churches belonging to the Connexion, and advise such minorities to refer their grievances to the next higher tribunal of this Connexion."

On motion the resolution was adopted.

Committee on character and usefulness of ministry report

Elder Jno. Turnage, favorable	Elder I. Wheeler favorable
" P. Creech, "	" E. Wallace, unknown
" A. Fowler, "	" Martin Byrd, "
" R. A. Johnson, "	" J. W. Lucas, favorable
" B. B. Holder, unknown	

ERASMUS LEE, Chairman Committee.

On motion, the names of J. M. Byrd and D. W. Tew, (licentiates) were erased from the minutes.

By request, the Corresponding Committee report verbally. Their report was encouraging to the Conference, which received the same and continued the committee.

The Mission Committee from the Yearly Meetings recommended "That the General Conference form a Mission Board for the support of itinerant preachers who shall be sent to the destitute churches."

The advice of the M. Com. being received, Eld. Turnage offered the following resolutions, which were received for discussion:

Resolved 1st, That this Conference form within the limits of Cape Fear Connexion, a Mission Board for the support of itinerant preaching and missionary enterprise in said Connexion, which Board shall be amendable to the General Conference.

2nd. That five dollars paid at the time of entering shall entitle to membership in the Board.

The resolutions were adopted by a unanimous vote.

On motion, the following resolution, again offered by Eld. Johnson, was received for discussion:

Resolved, That Art. 1. in our Discipline on "Constitution of Annual Conferences," be so amended as to read *Annual Conference*, where it now reads, "General Conference once every two years."

Motion to adopt was superseded by motion to lay on the table.

Committee on Sabbath Schools reported:

Large Sabbath schools are in successful operation at several of the churches, and the interest in this glorious work daily increasing. R. A. JOHNSON, Chairman.

The report was accepted, and committee continued.

Committee of Finance reported: We find in hands of Treasurer $31 75."

The report was received and committee discharged.

On motion, J. Wilson Lucas was appointed to transcribe the proceedings of the Conference, and have them printed; for which Conference pays him $15.00.

On motion Treasurer was ordered to deliver to the transcriber all funds in hand.

Transcriber received from Treasurer $31.75; from Elder Fowler's collections afterwards, 75c.; total $32.50.

On motion transcriber was ordered to have printed 400 copies of the Proceedings of this Conference.

On motion Conference granted to J. Wilson Lucas a certificate of commendation, signed by the Moderator.

On motion, Conference will hold its next session at the usual time with the church at Johnston Union, Johnston County. Introductory by J. W. Lucas.

On motion, J. W. Lucas having been examined in Conference, was commended to Ordaining Council for ordination.

On motion, Secretary was authorized to enroll the name of J. W. Lucas as Elder in Freewill Baptist denomination.

On motion, Conference adjourned.

Devotional services conducted by Eld. Jas. Turnage.

PARROT CREECH, Moderator.
ERASMUS LEE, Assistant.

J. WILSON LUCAS, Sec'y,
W. A. JACKSON, Ass't.

AT THE STAGE.

Friday, 11 *O'Clock*, *A. M.*

Eld. Fowler introduced services, and preached from Jeremiah ix: 1, "*Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!*"

Eld. Wheeler followed, and preached from Matt. xxv: 19, "*After a long time the lord of those servants cometh and reckoneth with them.*"

Saturday, 11 *O'Clock*, *A. M.*

Eld. Turnage introduced services and preached from Hebrews VIII: 1, "Let brotherly love continue."

Eld. R. A. Johnson continued services, and preached from Mark xvi: 15, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

STATISTICS &C., FOR 1872.

STONY RUN YEARLY MEETING.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	PASTORS.	Ad. by Bap.	Ad. by Relation.	Dis.	Excluded.	Died.	No. members.	No. belonging to S. S.	Increase or decrease of membership.
Prospect,	Harnett,	Elder Allen Fowler,					1	73	88	1 d.
Pleasant Grove,	Harnett,	" Jas. Turnage,	26		1		2	98	38	20 i.
Stony Run,	Cumberland,	destitute.								
Long Branch,	"	Elder Jas. Turnage,	40	2			1	104	66	41 i.
Little River,	"	destitute,								
Carver's Creek,	"	"								
Shady Grove,	Sampson,	Elder A. Fowler,								
Piney Green,	"	extinct.			1	1	1	72	125	3 d

JOHNSTON YEARLY MEETING.

Mt. Pleasant,	Wake,	Elder Parrot Creech,	1								
Johnston Union,	Johnston,	Eld. R. A. Johnson,	15	1	2	3	1	47			6 d
St. Mary's Grove,	"	Eld. Parrot Creech,				1		50	25		15 i.
Antioch,	"	destitute,						50			
Union Springs,	"	Eld. Jas. Turnage,						14			
Stony Fork,	"	Eld. R. A. Johnson,	9		1			16			
Laural Chapel,	"	" "			3	3		42			4 d.
Bethesda,	"	" "	7		4	2	1	80			3 i.
Savannah,	Harnett,	Eld. Jas. Turnage,	34		1		1	140			61 i.
	Johnston,	destitute,									

Total Churches 20 destitute 5.

121	3	12	8	5	740	317	96 nr.

Condary Ellis has original ...
Dunn, N.C.